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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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12/22/2003

Denis Lehongre

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4475

38106 7590 01/18/2007
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EXAMINER

DO. CHAT C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2193

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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31 DAYS

01/18/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. There is no generic to the following disclosed patentably distinct species:
 - a. Species I: claims 1, 3-4, 15, 17, 43, 46, and 48 are directed to conversion circuit with $2^n - 1$ elements and $T(x) = 0$ if x larger than R .
 - b. Species II: claims 2, 5-6, 16, 18, 42, 47, and 49 are directed to conversion circuit with 2^n elements and $T(x) = 0$ if x larger than R .
 - c. Species III: claims 7, 9-10, 14, 19, 21, 45, 50, and 52 are directed to conversion circuit with $2^n - 1$ elements and $T(x) = 1$ if x larger than R .
 - d. Species IV: claims 8, 11-13, 20, 22, 44, 51, and 53 are directed to conversion circuit with 2^n elements and $T(x) = 1$ if x larger than R .

Claims 23-41 will be examined along with any selected Species.

The species are independent or distinct because each of Species I-IV requires a particular condition for conversion. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

2. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chat C. Do whose telephone number is (571) 272-3721. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 9:00AM to 7:30PM.

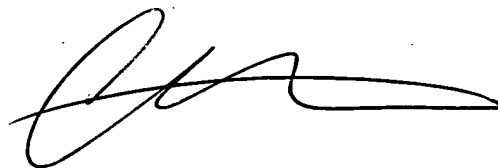
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2193

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Chat C. Do
Examiner
Art Unit 2193

January 11, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chat C. Do', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.